down the pier under suspicion.

as if you could."

fact, it was quite different

## SMUGGLING ALL THEY TALK OF THAT STHE REAL INTEREST OF THE PRANCELLER IN PARIS.

ten stories of Evading the Customs Ofwas That Linger About Shops and Pensions Old Trunks as a Preaution Saving American Labels.

rding to the testimony of returnlers the European trip has come merely a battle of wits between erican woman and the Custom

some of the former: "There is no is it used to be in the good old when I first crossed the ocean, an ng exchange of aesthetic inciwhen two meet who have had a niting. Then we used to rhapsosome special painting in the challery, to weep together over vs spent at Malmaison, to discuss spective merits of the Thames Seine of the palaces at Versailles and amebleau. We regarded our pilge m an educational sense as well enjoyable episode. Now when ast one of your countrywomen the other side or crossing the her first question is not 'Have going to get your things in?' This owed by anecdotes as to her own on the subject and those of her

Paris has gone quite mad on the suband Paris in summer means of course American invasion, supplemented he enormous corps of pension proors, shopkeepers and dressmakers are is no question that a great deal of information which comes to the Govnent in regard to contemplated smugg is furnished by the very parties sell their wares to the American tors and then by informing get an



TAKE THE OLD KNIVES."

that you can find in the whole French They are organized apaches. in many of the Parisian establishits when an American woman has ight generously she is asked as a

mate and personal interest. Day by saying the fruits of your fall, and girl be employed. lans, worse than all, laughing at your or shrewdpess



ra commission. These people are these oblique methods has produced ever, kept right on. fectly unscrupulous. A second sys- a perfect panic on the part of the Ameri- had her food and sleep that is all she deof blackmail is that of the concierges, can resident. While the newcomers manded of life. One day, nevertheless, are possibly the most unmoral class trust in the good old fashioned way the something in the nature of an idea penenost comes to a matter of loyalty sophisticated ones go to the other extrated her brain cells, and pointing to the treme and suspect everybody and every-doors of my pension neighbors she put

> "In one of the pensions where I stayed ing to me the suggestion that she knew there was a young woman from Boston their weakness and was sorry for them. of the latter class. She had come over They had her discharged just before I two dollars a week for her board, and yard one day talking to a strange looking had spent her time in getting clothes man in a blue blouse. The man was for her family and a few friends which really her cousin, but one of the American she intended to take back in August, women thought him a detective in diswhen there is little incoming rush and guise. I don't know who succeeded her. the attention of the officials is not so but 1 am sure her stay was brief. keen as a month or six weeks later, when "One day I was called into the room of the regular crowd begins to return, in- a woman I had known slightly in the cluding the dressmakers.

> in the neighborhood of 110 pounds, would ing house to warrant my asking why in often appear at the pension evenings the name of all the saints she didn't buy in dresses which even to a person afflicted herself some new trunks while in Paris with an acute case of strabismus or astigmatism it would seem were made for a person weighing 200 at least. They were in reality destined for her mother's wardrobe. But she wanted to give them that pice look of having been worn which so often deceives the inexperienced attaché of the customs service. She balanced this careless disregard of possible observation by a perspicacity in other direct ons which hardly seems credible, but which, I assure you. is duplicated by my foolish country women all the time during their visits in the French capital.

"She would never allow any one to tter, of course if she wishes her bill sign for a package but herself, and when is out for a reduced sum. If she save in the boarding house spent a good deal as she is asked to name her own figure of time peering over the banister in order the receipt is given her for that, to prevent the porter asking any quessometimes possibly a quarter of what tions of carriers who might have goods are actually paid. The politeness of the for her. Usually she brought home her federate cannot be described; it is own purchases in a taxi hired for the day mely Gallie. There is usually a She knew all the byways and back alleys pathetic glance of mutual under- of Paris where sample dresses may be ding perhaps a handelsan suggesting; bought and costumes made for less t differing in nationality, they are at extravagant sums than those asked on This exclamation was called forth by the son say it They say it with better m fundamentals. As soon as the the grand boulevards, and in each of these sight of a trio of the most awful looking grace departs, congratulating herself on places she had given a different name, so boxes I had ever seen, battered and er finesse, the attendant flies to a tele- that she would often lie awake nights in banged and bulging in the wrong places person, who ignored her shabby appear none and communicates her informa- fits of insomnia trying to recall the special. Even the multiplicity of the labels so ance and the fact that she had worn the on to some one with whom she shares cognomen she had used at a particular dear to the American heart, sharing that same dress every day for weeks and was shatever rakeoff is allowed for such in- shop where it was necessary for her to honor with picture postcards, could not undoubtedly on the shortest kinds of The concierge of your hotel or pension. to me on one excursion where she begged hasbeens as the case may be, takes an immediate my companionship as she was afraid to "Buy new trunks," she exclaimed in a hesitated a moment, and then with a interest in your welfare the moment you venture alone that she did not intend horrifled voice. "Why, that's the very manner truly Bostonese remarked that are registered in his establishment, to be traced by the detectives employed surest givenway. I had these dragged she never had any difficulty and that she the telephones for you, and that to an by the Government and took this pre- from the storage warehouse on purpose should employ her usual tactics, which therican is worth the price of lodging; caution. She had once had to pay duty I wouldn't think of travelling home with was to stand about and look bored. You e receives and signs for your packages on a \$25 dress she had not declared and such an awful "scraggly" lot, but if you know an American man cannot stand a ad even on occasion pays for them. her mind was actually diseased by this want the Custom House officials to throw woman looking at him in a bored way, no has a way with him, a way sug- obsession; but she had plenty of company, everything you have on the wharf just matter what class he may belong to, sesting that although he has to give and in the same pension before I came come back with a new French trunk or whether he is a custom house inspector is courtesies demanded by his position away another American woman displayed two. Incidentally she also confessed or a gentleman

fall under his dominion her room to be made up by the femme de which she disposed of on landing so as Just as soon as an American woman has and day by day you become more chambre unless she was in it, and if to have plenty of room to take things bought some new clothes, she reserves a When you finally go away accident prevented she would stop out-back, articles of clothing that she had table for afternoon tea there, and teleou are sorry for him, for he makes you side and listen through a crack or key- stayed there long enough to wear about phones madly to all the women of her own that your generous tip by no means hole to find out if the girl was opening and take the freshness from. She had country in Paris for the moment to meet mpensates him for the loss of your any packages. Once she was positive provided herself with a lot of American her in the summer garden for the cheering empanionship. If you are caught red she detected the sound of tissue paper labels to sew on some of the costumes, cup. Of course they know the invitation anded in the commission of so-called being unrolled and did not rest until She gave me a tip never to throw these means that there is no use coming unless mious deeds, such as winding your the maid was discharged, going about away when a gown was past its usefulness, they too have bought or have some ves with Honiton or bringing in sable among the other pensionaires and de but to keep a box of them so that I could novel smuggling ideas for the hour or two is in a false bottomed hat box, the value scribing the girl's suspicious actions always have them when needed in Europe, which will be devoted to appraising values which the Government accurately until all the women who had goods they The label bag, it seems, is quite a necessand exchanging confidences on that mates, remember in your moment of intended to smuggle in and every one sity for the American tourist at present topic ression that your friend the concierge had combined in insisting that a new and exchanges and presents of them. "The cleverest story I heard at one of

the discomfiture while he wonders thing ever. She was fresh from the plied three boarders who had never chased three new chiffon gowns, which his boon companions how and why provinces and did not have an idea above thought of such a cute trick and were she sewed together, belt to belt, sleeve American nation ever got its reputa- her wages, food and bed. You could see correspondingly grateful that in her bovine face and her elephanidentally the Parisian cannot tine movements. When you heard her of course only on the one topic. I was weight and substance that they are almost stand that reputation on which coming up the stairs in the morning you promptly squelched when, leaping into as afterial as the shawls made by the zen of the United States prides thought that a moving van had broken the arena one evening. I attempted to nuns of the Azores, which may be pulled two continually. He admits that into the establishment and was making latter a word for a law I don't believe in through finger rings, can easily be so generous, energetic, good natured for your door. If you said 'Good morning' but respect because it is a law ge hearted, but when it comes to she responded 'Ouh,' and she spoke au "I clinched my argument by saving and intended this time to declare her of shrewdness he shrugs his unintelligible language which was more to the assembled group. There isn't one particular composite frock as one gown, shoulders and confesses that there difficult than that of the boarders who had of you here but would be horribly ashamed and as she had paid \$1,000 for the lot and ble so completely lacking in this all taken lessons the winter before, pre- at the mere thought of stealing anything would have to pay duty on a declared at quality as the American. With paring for their summer tour. But do from me, but you are perfectly callons value of \$150 she considered that she was of other European countries you think all these qualities prevented apparently to the fact that you are actuemploying her time rather profitably ending battle of finesse. When her from being under suspicion? She was ally stealing stealing, I don't mince. "Another woman told how, the youngest and the stealing of the s to getting the best of the under constant surveillance, peered at words from the Government of your before she had purchased a new sealskin in it is like taking a dead mouse through keyholes, asked all sorts of native land. I paused with a Stars and coat in Geneva, long uister effect and foolish questions, regarded in a way that Stripes Star Spangled Banner expression made of an extraordinarily handsome servant traveller goes on to would have made a nervous person throw and a fat old thing from Philadelphia put skin. She thought the situation over of

her finger to her head, pityingly, convey-December, was paying twenty- left because she was seen in the court-

States. Our acquaintance had pro-"This girl, who weighed somewhere gressed sufficiently in the French board-



PAPA'S TRUNK.

go the next day. She made as excuse hide the paintless, pathetic look of these rations, as to what method she intended

others in you alone he feels an in- an even more remarkable zeal if possible, that going to Paris her tranks only con-"This second one was the stupidest nings one woman at this house sup-

the gradual knowledge of all up her position immediately. She, how- up her lorgnette, gazed at me critically getting it in duty free and her plan worked

kles attract the lynx eyed officials. A overworked and pritable, as many of his asked courteously to allow the inspector, monstrating with his wife and three most clever design which another woman class undoubtedly are, commenced to to examine the hat she was wearing, daughters on their smuggling preparaasked my advice about patenting was argue and threaten and finally she turned worn by her on her return from her on him and shricked You can have your old cutlery; I'll never pay duty on it. "You know the silk belt that many When he started back, a little overwhelmed women use, with pendant garters instead at the unexpected attack, she seized the of the garters sewed directly to the cor- knives and with all ally Macheth gesture sets. One of these belts was furnished threw them overboard with a final exwith half a dozen garter hangings and clamation against the land of her birth. at the end of each hanging was a wooden Stiffened with astonishment at such an clothespin covered with silk to match outburst the official stood speechless Each of these pins could ciuteh half a while the offended passenger threw her dozen articles of light compass, hand- coat over her arm and walked with tragic kerchiefs, laces, gloves, stockings, &c., step and offended mien down the pier to and altogether a woman could by this her cab, into which she threw the garmeans bring in a lot of pretty things ment, while the officer marked her bag-The clothespins, as you reduced, and all.

a catch which nothing will loosen, and all.

"And whatever other mistakes you may "And whatever other mistakes you may a Ritz The clothespins, as you remember, have gage and never took notice of the coat at

bits of evidence behind her as she walks make.' said another member of a Ritz the steamer gangway or marches up and tea table, beware of the man who has the steamer chair next to yours. I have Another woman I saw in a really just received a letter from a friend of mine pitiable state. She had heard of the most who tells her troubles, dating from her remarkable pocket specially designed lack of observance of this rule known for smuggling which is only made in one to all sophisticated smugglers. This shop in Berlin and she had secured the particular neighbor happened to be a address and had taken the trip from Paris charming young man of Italian origin. o Berlin in order to purchase it, not in business in New York, who had all the



one for a pretty penny and on her way was a big white hat with a blue band and declare

where I tarried for several weeks was a sailing out of a valuable lace flounce country. Lanswered The official touched my tray. Boston spinster who lived in a hall bedroom, had no friends in Paris and no money to spend except for the most meagre excursions here and there. She gave as a reason for her being there that she simply would not be a porch bird' in America: that is, sit around on the verandas of wealthy relatives. 'If I've got to be called an old maid,' she averred. I prefer to have a French per

"Asked one evening by a persistent to use to get her things through, she

"The Ritz Hotel in Paris is the smartest "This second one would never allow tained some bricks and a few old clothes rendezvous for the would-be smugglers.

within sleeve, one garniture over another "The conversation of these soirées is The winter evening gowns, so light in arranged She had been caught once

"Then when they trundled one out to the testing ground and looked her over the people have the testing ground and looked her over the people have the testing ground and looked her over the people have to white people have to walk looked the those of the fiver back of the strain people from the danger of being speared to stand back, for this train doesn't the those looked the them that it out white people have to walk the whom the same and the strain people from the danger of being speared to the fiver back of the propel

stockings and gloves between livings and half a dozen small knives she was indig- to the steamer chair man, who was quite with remorseless and growy hands. In facings, which although it may sound nantly wordy over the exaction of a ecstatic in regard to her eleverness. simple is really a very difficult art to Government that took such small matters. "On the dock, after the duties on her. An American father was heard, through acquire, for bagging or suspicious wrin- into account. The Custom House official, declared goods had been paid, she was the thin partition of a Paris hotel, re-

a morgent and then answered: out so beautifully that she cannot help designed for her wedding gown, the duty his cap, smiled, made a few passes and

cover in the tray of her trunk and when answering the compliment in regard to spend the better part of a hot day on a

There is a difference, sithough you repeating the story whenever she gets a on which she was unable to pay, having a couple of chalk marks on the trunks, seem to be strangely blind to it. The chance. She left a few articles that she spent so much on other articles of her and that was all I was neither insulted in Government can afford it, you don't look had not declared conspicuously under trousseau. In a moment of confidence nor under suspicion 1 did not have to

\*One woman showed me how to sew the Custom House official discovered its becomingness she confided its falsity wharf nor see my few helongings handled

person who knew the secret of that hat, ments and the present tariff law. He and meeting the perfidious one she frankly became pathetic as to his responsibilities accused him. He drew her aside and as a citizen of the greatest republic in admitted his fault. "I am quite willing the world and how it was his duty to proto pay half," he stated. "but I had to give tect his flag even against the unpatriotic you away to save myself. I have three deeds of his own family. The quartet times as much real face as you have went right on packing things away in about me and I could only prevent it corners, occasionally throwing a remark being discovered by playing the informer to him over their shoulders as to his waste, daring to trust to the post office or ex- tender ways of wrapping up the feet. The ease and facility with which length everything was arranged to their press company. The receptacle, accord- and of giving assistance on a riotous deck baggage is examined on the other side entire satisfaction, with the single excep-

and when the mechanism was disclosed tions. He recited in a stantorian voice was even more courteously required to excerpts from the Declaration of Indepay duty and fine. There was only one pendence, the Constitution, its amendof breath and tiresome monologue. At ng to her description, was all that its which the most exacting and fastidious forms a balancing topic at the smuggling tion of a small bundle which no one could reputation promised, being a part of a woman could possibly demand. The voy-teas and pension soirées "Coming to find room for. The bundle contained a petitional or drop skirt so dexterously age was along the southern route, where Newhaven by Dieppe, the long route," dozen extra pairs of silk stockings. They stitched in that nobody would suspect light dresses and hats are worn most said the observant traveller. "I was asked each tried to make the other take it and its nefarious presence. She had bought of the time, and her special allurement by a French official if I had anything to finally father ended his perorations rather sheepishly by saying, "Well, girls, back to Paris it had been stolen from her. a drooping white rose. She had made
"I have nothing to declare but my just to help you out not that I believe
"A pathetic figure at another pension the headdress herself the night before
perfect satisfaction with your wonderful in it, mind you. I'll let you tuck it into



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No. 5

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Vol. 1

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